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Les Tic Doloureux.

Of the Tic Dolorouux.

Related to ~~for~~ Rheumatism & Gout in its nature is the Disease called by the French physicians "tic Dolorouux". Dr Fothergill has called it "Dolor faciei." But this is improper for the disease affects other parts of the body ~~not only the head~~ as well as the face. more commonly. however is seated in the cheeks, the orbit of the eyes, the nose, the lips, the tongue & the gums. Now and then it affects the legs. The pain is very severe, ~~and~~ but seldom continues so for more than a minute or half a minute. It comes from one to one in two or three hours. a slow pain generally attends its intervals. sometimes it ceases for days, weeks and even months. occasionally appears in a trembling, or convulsive motion ~~of~~ the part affected. The pain ~~is excited by eating~~

V For an account of one of the best histories of it that has ever been pub=
=lished, I refer you to Dr Gardiner Jones'
history of his own Case in one of the
Numbers of Dr Coxe's medical Museum.

When seated in any part of the face is often excited by eating, speaking, and even moving any of the muscles that move the affected part and sometimes by noise. When the disease has been seated in the leg, it has been excited barely by a peice of paper falling upon it. It continues from One to six and twenty years, but it often terminates in other diseases. Dr Scattergill says it affects persons chiefly in the decline of life. ~~I say Observations do not~~ This remark is not conformable to general Observation. Dr Frostman says he has seen it in persons of ~~and~~ 9, & 10 years of age. I have seen two cases of it ~~under~~ in persons under 20 years of Age. ——

The parts affected discover no marks of Disease upon being closely inspected, nor are ~~they~~ their functions in the least interrupted by it.

In our investigation of the nature

of this cruel disease, the following facts deserve our notice.

1 It affects gouty habits, and it is sometimes relieved by gouty pains in the feet.

2 It has been observed to prevail during the time intermitting fevers were epidemic. This is taken notice of by Dr Hillebrand, a German physician. as under in the 4th volume of the medical and physical journal tells us that he had once met with eight cases of it in a short time, and none for twenty & twenty years afterwards, from which he supposed it to depend upon some peculiarity of the atmosphere probably disposing to intermitting or periodical diseases. A case of it occured in Maryland in the year 1806 during the prevalence of intermittents, and which yeilded to Bark and blisters. ——

4

Why should not intermittents appear in this form as well as ~~as~~ in the forms of headach, tooth ach, Opthalmia, and all the other local diseases which were formerly mentioned? ——

From these facts it is evident it is not probably a Specific disease, and that it is a form only of Gout, or Rheumatism, or intermitting fever. It is not peculiar to it to be induced by two or three causes. The same thing takes place in the production of many other diseases. Nor is the pain of a Specific nature. We observe it in the jumping tooth ach, — in the ear ach, and head ach, & more obviously in the Gout in flying pains thro' the head and breast. In treating upon the first primary forms of disease you will recollect I called this transient form "Anasa Dolorifica".

I have more than once spoken of the

greater Obstinacy of diseases which affect one system, than those which are diffused thro' two or three Systems. The "tic douloureux" owes its peculiar Obstinacy to its being insolated in the nervous System. This is evident from no motion appearing in the part affected, from which we may infer the contiguous muscles and blood vessels to be wholly free from disease. Perhaps the took acts over the exquisite pain, and its increasable nature to the same cause. It is seated wholly in a Nerve. —

Before I proceed to mention the remedies that have been employed in this disease I shall briefly take notice that Dr Fo=
=thergill has ascribed it to a Cancerous humour. The only fact in support of this opinion is, the disease in one case ended in a Cancer of the tongue — a part in which Cancers often take place from the numerous irrita=
=tions

that member
to which it is exposed. The Opinion ~~that~~
~~therefore to be rejected~~ is hypothetical & should not
be admitted.

Of the Remedies ~~which have been~~
for this disease. Here Gentlemen let
Medicine put on Sackcloth. After years of
study and experience, ~~little to be~~ certain by physicians
of the first Abilities, who have been
=covered for it. Blisters, Caustics - Moxa,
Bark, Guajacum, the hot and cold bath - ice
Electricity, the extraction of teeth - the perforation of the
antrum maxillare - abstinence & a full diet - &
lastly a salivation - cutting the nerve which led to
the diseased part, - have all been employed
in it to no purpose. — It has however
been relieved by Art, and now & then cured
by Nature. I shall mention the means
employed by both, and afterwards make
some remarks upon them.

Opium, Hemlock, the Belladona, the Datura
Stramonium - have all afforded some
relief in this disease.

~~a Dr Thatcher says he once gave great~~

v in many cases, but Dr Physick
ascribes the failure of Stumps in
many case to the wound not
being
been made to deep, or extensive so
to divide the effected tissue.—

2 It has been cured by cutting or destroying by a Caustic, the Nerve or Nerves that led to the diseased part. This remedy we are told has been used with Success in Paris, & done by Dr Haighton in London, & by Dr Physick in this city. It has failed of affording relief ~~in this disease~~ ~~but it has failed in several instances~~

3 Dr. Portloups a German physician says he ~~cured~~ knew ~~its success~~ an instance of its being cured by the application of a magnet to the part affected.

4 Dr Martinkeil says he gave great relief in this disease by gentle purges, clysters pediluvium - Low diet - Nitre & Opium.

5 Dr Martin of Germany tells us he knew an instance of its being suspended for 6 weeks by grief in a lady who had lost her husband.

6 Dr Cappe late of York in England tells he had a patient in whom the pain

was always suspended by playing whist.
He was passionately fond of this game.

Dr Siebold of Germany says he once
saw a cure of it performed by nature
by means of a spontaneous Abscess upon
the Shoulder. Upon the healing of this Abscess,
the disease returned, but it was again cured
by creating a discharge from the Shoulder
by means of a Caustic. Dr Gunther of
Leipsic says he saw ~~the wound of~~ a
similar Cure from a wound upon the
head, but which returned when the wound was
healed. ~~It~~ It was again ~~cured~~ cured by opening
the wound. ——

It wears away by time.

From the history of these radical
& partial Cures performed by art &
Nature, we may deduce the following
inferences. ——

1 That the more powerful the remedies
have been, the less relief they have afforded.
2 That the more feeble the remedies have
been the more relief they have given. This
is evident from the effects of gentle purges,
glysters - fomentations & low diet in the
hands of Dr Westerkiel.
3 That the principle of faith when excited
into action has done good in this disease.
The magnet mentioned by Dr Hartlouse
probably ~~could~~ did Service only in this
way.
4 That the exercises of the mind are
useful in this Disease. This is evident
from the relief obtained to ~~the~~ suspension
of the Disease by grief and playing whist.
5 That counter irritatives & discharges
are likewise useful. This is proved by

V Thus we see the Colic in Children
cured by gently rubbing their bellies, and
several other formidable diseases cured
by the pleasure which is excited by scratch
=ing in the itch.

the Cures from the Abscess on the shoulder,
and the wound upon the head which
have been mentioned. ——

It is no new thing for great efforts to
spring from little causes, and for violent
diseases to be cured by feeble remedies. A
weak pleasurable sensation we said formerly
often predominated over more powerful
painful ones. It is still more common
to see severe bodily diseases cured by
the exercises of the Understanding and
passions. Let us avail ourselves of these
facts in the history of the disease and of the
laws of the Animal Oeconomy, and instead
of attacking it by storm, or a tedious
and expensive seige, let us attempt
to subdue it by the more feeble means
of stratagem or gentle negociation.
The faculties of the mind are under our

I expect benefit from the use of feeble
Stimuli in this disease, from ~~it being~~
the part affected feeling little or no pain
from a strong impression being made
upon it, and get feeling the most exquisite pain
from the most feeble impression, even
from a piece of paper falling upon it.

command in most cases. I believe we perform many Cures by addressing ourselves to them without the knowledge of ourselves, or of our patients. I am the more disposed to V

Know the effects of the Abscess & wound, it would seem that artificial drains of matter might be useful near the parts affected. Perhaps by opening a Drain in a more distant part with which the diseased part sopathy might be -tural or acquired sympathy might be still more useful. — The great Secret of a disease Cure for this, will depend upon ~~depend~~ ~~on~~ ~~intoxication~~ Stimulation in ~~reducing~~ ~~forcing~~ it from its insular ~~situation~~ it to other parts the nerves, and alternating of the body, if it cannot be found out of the System. I have known it to pass from the one ~~to and in hypochondriasis~~ and Cure in a ~~Disease~~ of the bowels, ~~&c~~

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sore into the brain where it produced apo=
=plesy and death, and I have heard of its
passing into ~~a fatal district of~~ into the bowels in
a lady in this ~~district where~~ city in whom it proved
fatal. — what might not be effects of
trying to fix it ~~into~~ in the feet, or of
conveying it out of the system thro' that
part of the body? A burn on the foot
has responded & even cured epilepsy.
Blisters to the ancles do most service in
the violent states of madness — toasting the
feet as it is called, and applications of
burnied Garlic to them, have often cured
the worst distressing & obstinate tooth,
and head ache. These local remedies can
Do no ~~harm~~ harm, and the analogies I have
mentioned justify an expectation, that they
may be useful. —